16th March 1955]

Dispensary for Pazhayangadi.

* 1398 *Q.*—Sri K. UPPI (on behalf of Sri M. Chadayan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have received the recommendations of the Malabar District Board to open a new dispensary at Pazhayangadi in North Malabar and if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" No recommendation of the Malabar Board in the matter has been received by Government."

Eucalyptus plantations.

* 1399 *Q.*—Sri A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the possibility of increasing the eucalyptus plantations on the Nilgiris to get rayon grade pulp in consultation with the Union Government; and

(*b*) if so, whether proposals will be submitted to the Union Government for planting new eucalyptus trees before putting up a pilot rayon plant at Ootacamund?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Revision of the rates of dearness allowance to N.G.Os.

* 1400 *Q.*—Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have ascertained what the financial commitments to the State would be by raising the State dearness allowance rates of State Employees drawing Rs. 300 and below to the Government of India's rates of dearness allowance to similarly paid class of Government of India employees?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes. The extra cost will be about Rs. 312 lakhs."

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, will the Government be pleased to take some steps to tackle this heart-burning problem of the N.G.Os.? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, now the cost of living is going down slowly. I do not think this is the time to reconsider the question of increasing the dearness allowance."

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Sir, even if the Government do not propose to increase the rates of dearness allowance in the case of the N.G.Os., may I know whether they will consider the proposal of merging a portion of the dearness allowance with pay for the purpose of conferring retirement benefits, as has been done in the case of the employees of the Central Government? "